



***Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission
Tuesday, January 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes***

Central Library – Doty Board Room
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN

NCEC member attendees: Matthew Dobratz, Jeffrey Strand, Kirk Roggensack, Ishmael Israel, Denis Houle, Maleta Kimmons, Eric Gustafson, Tessa Wetjen, Doron Clark, Francisco Segovia, Debra Behrens, Carol Pass, and David Zaffrann.

NCEC members Absent: Kenya McKnight and Brittany Lewis

Commission staff: Howard Blin and Cheyenne Brodeen

Guests: Peter Rickmyer and Sonya Lewis.

1. Public Comment. Peter Rickmyer appeared to speak during public comment. He shared that he would like a response from the NCR Department regarding a grievance he's filed against the Jordan Area Community Council. He stated that it is past the response date that the department is supposed to comply with. He would like a grievance committee of the NCEC created to consider his grievance.

2. Introduction (Action):

- A.** Chair Israel called the meeting to order at 5:22 PM with a quorum of 9 commissioners present. Commission members gave brief updates of activities in their neighborhoods.
- B. Agenda:** The agenda was approved with the addition of item 8B. Establish a Grievance Committee and switch agenda items 6 and 7. Clark moved to approve the agenda, Gustafson Seconds the motion. Motion Carried.

3. Executive Committee Reports (Informational and Action):

Chair's Report: Chair Israel welcomed the commission and guests.

Secretary Report:

- A. Minutes:** Strand moved approval of the November 2014 NCEC Commission Meeting Minutes, Clark Seconds the motion, Motion Carried. Strand moved approval of the December 2014 NCEC Commission Meeting Minutes, Dobratz Seconds the motion. Zaffrann Abstains. Motion Carried.
- B. Attendance Report:** Commissioner Strand asked staff if there was any information regarding when the vacant seat on the commission is going to be filled. Staff responded and said that those details are still being worked out; staff will update the commission as soon as information becomes available.

4. Committee Task Force Reports: (Action)

- A. Committee of the Whole.**

Commissioner Strand reported that at the January 14th Committee of the Whole meeting the group reviewed the Draft Community Innovation Fund guidelines, the City Council staff directives and the work around the Blueprint for Equitable Engagement.

B. One Minneapolis Fund Committee.

Blin reported that the Request for Proposals (RFP's) will be released on Monday, February 02, 2015 with two months to respond. NCR plans to notify the Council on Non-profits, Neighborhood Organizations, previous applicants and Hennepin County.

C. City Department Engagement Task Force.

Clark reported that the Task Force had been hiatus until work on the Blueprint is done. Now the work is far enough along for the CDETF to come back online. The next CDETF meeting will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month – February 18th at 5:00pm at the NCR Office.

D. Community Innovation Fund Committee.

Zaffrann reported that the feedback received at the January 14th Committee of the Whole meeting has been incorporated into the guidelines presented for approval at today's NCEC meeting. He also noted that the committee has met a total of 3 times since December to draft the guidelines. The committee consisted of commissioner Behrens, Gustafson, Houle, Pass, Strand and Zaffrann. The intent of the group was to keep the guidelines to remain true to the intent of the program as the Framework for the Future had intended.

Motion: Zaffrann moves approval of the Community Innovation Fund guidelines, Gustafson Seconds the motion. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Clark congratulated the committee for excellent guidelines and for guidelines that encourage cooperative approaches.

E. City Council Charge.

Israel reported that the group met today and plan on formulating additional information and will bring the information back to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

F. Blueprint for Equitable Engagement.

Blin reported that the group is working with other partners to leverage resources.

5. NRP Policy Board Report

Strand reported that there will be a NRP Policy Board meeting in February. It will be held on Tuesday, February 17th at 5:00pm.

6. NCR Report

Blin gave an overview of the final outcomes of the 2015 Budget and how it related to the NCR Department.

The City Council completed work on the 2015 Budget on Wednesday, December 10th. During the public Comment period Commissioners Strand, McKnight, Wetjen, Pass and Houle were among the 60+ people who spoke.

Much of the final discussions on the budget focused on NCR programs, particularly the One Minneapolis Fund. The following summarizes the budget actions affecting the NCR and NCEC:

- **One Minneapolis Fund:** The long and winding road on funding for the program ended with \$182,000 available for 2015. All the funding will come from the general fund.

This follows the Mayor's original budget proposal of \$212,000 for One Minneapolis, \$150,000 of which was to come from TIF revenues. This proposal was cut to \$32,000 after the Council's budget mark up on December 1st. It is interesting to note that many of the speakers on Wednesday cited the need for more funding for One Minneapolis.

- **TIF Guidelines:** An amendment introduced by Councilmember Yang that directed NCR to provide guidelines for expenditure of the Consolidated TIF funds was referred to the Health, Environment and Community Engagement (HECE) Committee. The Committee will determine how this direction conforms to a similar direction approved by the HECE on November 17th in which NCR and NCEC are to develop guidelines for unspent NRP funds and recommendations for spending funds from the TIF District.
- **Evaluation of NCR Programs.** The following staff direction was approved:
Palmisano moved to amend the pending motion to direct the Internal Audit Department to work with the Neighborhood & Community Relations Department and other City Coordinator departments to create a scope of work and then oversee an evaluation of NCR Programs using existing budgeted resources. Staff is directed to report back findings of the evaluation to the Committee of the Whole by August 2015. The motion carried on a voice vote.

At this time we are attempting to clarify how this is to work with the earlier direction from the HECE Committee on recommendations NRP and Consolidated TIF District funds.

- **Immigration Support Services:** An amendment introduced by Councilmember Cano, and approved unanimously, redirected \$50,000 from the Convention Center marketing enhancement to NCR for support services to help implement the President's executive order on immigration.
- **Minneapolis Public Housing Authority – Project Lookout:** NCR was directed to provide \$55,000 for the Project Lookout program, which involves resident council in Minneapolis Public Housing's high-rise properties.

Comments:

- Clark asked for clarification of the sources of funds for each project funded. Staff responded that the One Minneapolis Fund, Immigration Support Services and the Project Lookout programs will be funded from the General Fund. The Community Participation Program will get an increase from the Tax Increment Finance district that funds neighborhood programs.
- Israel noted that the One Minneapolis Fund program was increased by 300% from \$62,000 to \$182,000.
- Houle questioned if the Convention Center was funded through Meet Minneapolis. Staff said that they are funded through the City's General Fund. Also Houle asked if the Neighborhood Specialist position was funded. Staff responded that it was not funded.

7. NCEC Strategic Plan

Israel stated that the NCEC convened to develop a strategic plan on Wednesday, January 21st. The outcome of that meeting is that the work of the strategic plan will continue at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Comments:

- Wetjen reviewed the outcomes from the initial strategic plan meeting. There were 4 items that the NCEC will be focusing on: Neighborhoods 2.0; Develop policy recommendations for equity; Develop a work plan; Equity and City department engagement. Wetjen would also like to get a group together to continue the work between meetings. She will convene the group. Members are, Wetjen, Israel, Dobratz, Strand, and Segovia.
- Gustafson would like to be added to the policy group.
- Strand mentioned that Karen DeYoung was a great facilitator.

8. New Business

B. Establish Grievance Committee

Motion: Wetjen moves that the Executive Committee will vet the grievance claim by Mr. Rickmyer to determine if it is a grievance that has already been acted on by this body. The Executive Committee will report back to full commission and if the findings determine that there is a need to form a new grievance committee, the Executive Committee will appoint commissioners to do so. Clark Seconds the motion. Motion Carried.

Comments:

- Zaffrann offered to serve on the grievance committee.

A. Commissioner Open Forum

Strand shared that the Lind-Bohanon neighborhood will be hearing about the 44th and Humboldt redevelopment project at their next board meeting.

Segovia mentioned the fix it tech events happening throughout the city. More information can be found by visiting: www.minneapolismn.gov/it/inclusion.

Clark asked how other commissioners connected with the neighborhood organizations that they represent. Houle stated that he sends emails to his neighborhoods. Behrens convenes monthly breakfasts with the staff of the neighborhoods she represents. Pass stated that she is very involved with the Philips 4 neighborhoods, but has less connections with the SUN Neighborhoods. Strand said that he emails and attends meetings when invited.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.